

UKRAINE – CONFLICT

FACT SHEET #8, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

1.4 million

Registered IDPs in Ukraine

OCHA – August 2015

1.1 million

Number of People

Displaced to

Neighboring Countries

UNHCR – August 2015

5 million

Number of People in Need
of Humanitarian Assistance

OCHA – July 2015

6,800

Documented Number of
Deaths Resulting from the
Conflict

OCHA – September 2015

17,000

Documented Number of
Injuries Resulting from the
Conflict

OCHA – September 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- Self-proclaimed authorities and bureaucratic restrictions continue to impede humanitarian assistance deliveries to NGCAs
- Access constraints render 1.3 million people at risk of inadequate access to water, hinder shelter support for at least 30,000 conflict-affected individuals, and delay winter preparedness efforts
- USG commits approximately \$22.5 million in additional FY 2015 funding for humanitarian response in Ukraine

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO UKRAINE IN FY 2015

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| USAID/OFDA ¹ | \$25,606,600 |
| USAID/FFP ² | \$10,000,000 |
| State/PRM ³ | \$35,900,000 |

\$71,506,600

TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO THE
UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN
FY 2015

\$83,832,436

TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO THE
UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN
FY 2014 & 2015

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- A September 1 ceasefire agreement between the Government of Ukraine (GoU) and separatist forces in eastern Ukraine largely held during the month; however, despite a decrease in hostilities, self-proclaimed authorities continued to deny humanitarian organizations access to the non-government controlled areas (NGCAs) of Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and Luhansk People's Republic (LPR).
- On September 23, self-proclaimed LPR authorities instructed UN and other relief organizations to cease operations and leave the region by September 25 and 26, respectively, according to international media. Meanwhile, humanitarian agencies awaited registration approval in DPR, where self-proclaimed authorities initially denied aid agencies' applications on August 14 and then permitted humanitarian organizations to reapply for registration in late August. As of late September, only Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) had received an accreditation document allowing them to operate in DPR.
- Due to access constraints, humanitarian organizations cannot reach conflict-affected populations in NGCAs with winter preparedness interventions—including shelter repairs, monetary support to ensure utility payments, and relief commodities to assist beneficiaries during the upcoming winter months. The UN reports that access constraints have hindered the delivery of an estimated 1,900 metric tons (MT) of relief supplies since July; at least 16,000 MT of relief supplies remained in the pipeline for vulnerable populations in NGCAs.
- As of September 30, USAID/OFDA and State/PRM had committed an additional \$15 million and \$7.5 million, respectively, to address the critical humanitarian needs of conflict-affected households in Ukraine. This brings the total U.S. Government (USG) FY 2014 and FY 2015 assistance for emergency relief activities in Ukraine to nearly \$84 million.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

INSECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- The UN maintains that 5 million people require humanitarian assistance in Ukraine, including 2 million people in NGCAs; 2 million people that reside along the contact line, or the border between NGCAs and government-controlled areas (GCAs), and an additional 1 million people in GCAs.
 - A ceasefire agreement between the GoU and separatist forces in eastern Ukraine largely held in September; however, the decrease in hostilities did not improve access to NGCAs. DPR and LPR self-proclaimed authorities continued to hinder the delivery of international assistance from reaching conflict-affected populations in NGCAs.
 - On September 23, self-proclaimed authorities from LPR instructed UN and other relief agencies to cease operations and leave the region by September 25 and 26, respectively, according to international media. Following the announcement, the LPR Humanitarian Committee announced that applications might be considered at a later date and welcomed relief agencies to resubmit registration paperwork, but not yet resume operations. All UN agency operations remained suspended as of September 30.
 - Meanwhile, the majority of international relief agencies awaited registration approval in DPR, where self-proclaimed authorities initially denied agencies' applications on August 14. The self-proclaimed authorities allowed humanitarian organizations to reapply during the subsequent weeks. By September 30, most humanitarian relief operations had been suspended for more than two months with no indication of when DPR authorities would make a final determination on agencies' accreditation status. As of late September, only MSF had received an accreditation document allowing the organization to operate in DPR.
 - According to the UN, access constraints are preventing humanitarian organizations from launching a winter preparedness response in the NGCAs. Access constraints have hindered the delivery of an estimated 1,900 MT of relief supplies since July, when self-proclaimed authorities announced that humanitarian actors must register to operate in NGCAs; in addition, approximately 16,000 MT of relief supplies, including food assistance, shelter materials, and medical supplies, were in the pipeline for conflict-affected populations residing in NGCAs as of September 30.
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PROTECTION

- The Ukraine conflict has resulted in approximately 1.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), according to the UN. In August, the Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—reported positive developments toward simplifying the IDP registration process in the GCAs, including reducing the documents required for IDP registration and increasing the number of registration sites.
 - Of the IDPs residing in GCAs, 60 percent are elderly and 13 percent are children; these populations require immediate and longer-term protection interventions, the UN reports.
 - GoU Resolution Number 636—which aims to harmonize existing resolutions regarding IDP-related social assistance by creating benefits for employers that hire IDPs—became effective on September 9, the Protection Cluster reported. In addition, the GoU increased the minimum wage on September 17, resulting in higher pensions and social assistance payments for IDPs and other vulnerable individuals. State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continues to provide consultation services regarding legal and psychosocial issues, among others, for displaced populations. Key areas of concern for IDPs include movements across the contact line, family services, humanitarian assistance, IDP rights, registration, pensions, and psychological support.
 - Through approximately \$5.6 million in FY 2015 funding, USAID/OFDA supported seven NGOs to provide protection services to conflict-affected populations. Program activities included protection for children and the elderly, psychosocial support, and services for survivors of gender-based violence.
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FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that approximately 150,000 people were not receiving monthly food distributions as of September 30 due to the DPR and LPR self-proclaimed authorities

non-accreditation of most international relief organizations. As a result, WFP and its partners were reportedly unable to transport much-needed food relief supplies across the contact line. In addition, NGOs supporting nutrition activities report that recent assessments have found rates of 7–8 percent severe undernourishment among 2,700 surveyed vulnerable people in both GCAs and NGCAs, while 35–55 percent are under-nourished.

- A UN World Food Program (WFP) market survey of Ukraine conducted in July found that the cost of food in eastern Ukraine increased by 42 percent in July 2015 compared to July 2014. The survey also indicated that approximately 40 percent of the people interviewed in NGCAs were food-insecure, an increase of 26 percent since March. WFP projects that the ability of crisis-affected populations to purchase commodities will further decrease as access to income—including pensions and salaries—remains restricted, increasing food insecurity.
 - Through \$10 million in FY 2015 funding to WFP, USAID/FFP supported the distribution of locally and regionally procured immediate response rations targeting an estimated 435,000 conflict-affected beneficiaries residing in NGCAs—prior to access constraints—and cash and voucher assistance targeting approximately 140,000 vulnerable people residing in GCAs.
 - The UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), with FY 2015 support from USAID/OFDA, increased the capacity of relief agencies to respond to nutrition needs and facilitated greater information sharing and coordination among humanitarian organizations providing nutrition support.
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WASH

- OCHA reported that more than 1.3 million people in conflict-affected areas, both GCAs and NGCAs, were at risk of losing access to safe drinking water. Damage to water infrastructure as a result of the conflict is exacerbated by high water tariffs, limited routine maintenance, and lack of management, according to the UN. During August, six main water stations near the contact line in Luhansk *Oblast* were inoperable due to conflict-related damage, as well as lack of maintenance; an additional four water stations in the area were operating at reduced levels. Similarly, shelling in and around Donetsk city has left areas without access to piped water, while water was rationed in other areas as a result of damage.
 - In response, humanitarian organizations focusing on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities are working to strengthen water supply systems, with WASH Cluster members supporting water supply utilities in Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts* through the provision of water treatment chemicals, safe drinking water, and support to maintenance and repairs, according to the UN.
 - With nearly \$1.4 million in FY 2015 funding, USAID/OFDA is supporting UNICEF to coordinate WASH activities while providing water treatment supplies to areas most affected by fighting. In addition, USAID/OFDA funding supports NGO partners to provide safe drinking water to civilians through water trucking and repairs to boreholes, pumping stations, and water treatment plants.
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SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

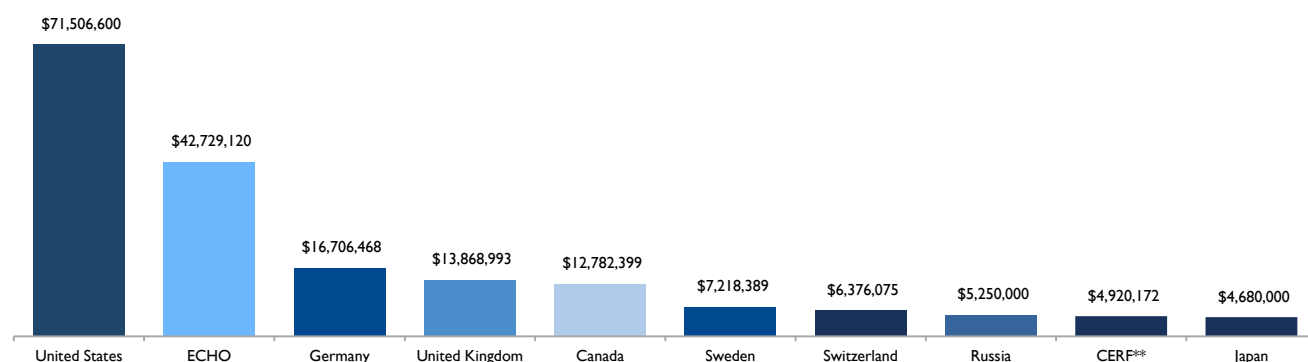
- Humanitarian organizations have raised concerns that access constraints will negatively impact winter preparedness among conflict-affected people, with access restrictions hindering aid agencies’ ability to ensure that sufficient supplies of relief commodities, including shelter items, reach beneficiaries in time for the winter months. The Shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI) Cluster estimated that relief agencies needed to dispatch 300 truck-loads of shelter materials to meet the needs of the 30,000 people targeted for shelter assistance.
- In FY 2015, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$14.7 million to support shelter activities and the provision and distribution of relief commodities. Through seven NGO partners operating in NGCAs prior to registration restrictions and GCAs, USAID/OFDA funding supported the provision of critical shelter assistance, winter-appropriate commodities, and the distribution of grants—valued at \$300 per beneficiary household—that paid for rental and utility subsidies, construction or insulation materials for the repair and winterization of one warm, dry room, and the local procurement of winter-specific commodities, including warm clothing.

- Through more than \$10.4 million in FY 2015 funding to UNHCR, State/PRM has supported Shelter and NFI Cluster coordination and relief efforts. The Cluster reports that humanitarian actors provided emergency shelter and relief commodities to more than 5,100 people during the month of September. Longer-term housing solutions remain a challenge, however, as the majority of displaced persons are sheltering with host households, volunteers, or in private, and often inadequate, accommodations. Some IDPs are residing in collective centers intended to provide short-term or transit accommodations and many face eviction as they are unable to pay utility bills and other obligations.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

- As of September 30, the Ukraine Humanitarian Response Plan—revised by the UN in February 2015 and covering humanitarian needs through December 2015—was 40 percent funded, having received approximately \$126 million in committed funds of the total \$316 million appeal.

2015 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of September 30, 2015. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect commitments based on FY 2015, which began on October 1, 2014.

**The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support underfunded emergencies.

CONTEXT

- Since March 2014, conflict between the GoU military and separatists has escalated in eastern Ukraine, causing large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure. The heaviest fighting has occurred in the easternmost oblasts bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts; however, the large influx of IDPs has negatively affected neighboring oblasts.
- As of July 2015, the UN estimated that the conflict had displaced more than 2.3 million people. As many as 5 million people remained in conflict-affected oblasts of eastern Ukraine, where the volatile security environment has impeded access by humanitarian actors.
- On October 29, 2014, U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey R. Pyatt re-issued a disaster declaration for Ukraine due to the continued humanitarian needs of IDPs and vulnerable populations affected by conflict between GoU forces and pro-opposition forces in eastern Ukraine.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE PROVIDED IN FY 2015¹

| IMPLEMENTING PARTNER | ACTIVITY | LOCATION | AMOUNT |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|--------------|
| USAID/OFDA ² | | | |
| Implementing Partners | Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, and WASH | Countrywide | \$23,787,362 |

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| OCHA | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management | Countrywide | \$700,000 |
| UNICEF | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, and WASH | Countrywide | \$1,001,000 |
| | Program Support | | \$118,238 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE | | | \$25,606,600 |
| USAID/FFP | | | |
| WFP | Locally Procured Food Assistance and Food Vouchers | Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts | \$10,000,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE | | | \$10,000,000 |
| STATE/PRM | | | |
| International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) | Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements | Countrywide | \$21,500,000 |
| International Organization for Migration (IOM) | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements | Countrywide | \$3,000,000 |
| UN Population Fund (UNFPA) | Protection | Countrywide | \$1,000,000 |
| UNHCR | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements | Countrywide | \$10,400,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE | | | \$35,900,000 |
| TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE IN FY 2015 | | | \$71,506,600 |

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE PROVIDED IN FY 2014

| IMPLEMENTING PARTNER | ACTIVITY | LOCATION | AMOUNT |
|--|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| USAID/OFDA | | | |
| OCHA | Logistics and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements | Countrywide | \$271,536 |
| Implementing Partners | Logistics and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements | Eastern Ukraine, Kiev | \$6,250,000 |
| | Program Support | | \$129,300 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE | | | \$6,650,836 |
| STATE/PRM | | | |
| ICRC | Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements | Countrywide | \$2,300,000 |
| IOM | Logistics and Relief Commodities, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH | Countrywide | \$405,000 |
| UNFPA | Health, Protection | Countrywide | \$120,000 |
| UNHCR | Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements | Countrywide | \$2,850,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE | | | \$5,675,000 |
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE IN FY 2014 | | | \$12,325,836 |

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE IN FY 2014 AND FY 2015 **\$83,832,436**

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² Funding represents announced funding amounts as of September 30, 2015.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>